

MARVEL LEGACY

POISON-X CONCLUSION

163



# VENOM



BUNN  
SALAZAR  
ANINDITO  
ALMARA

ROBSON  
MOI

YEARS AGO, PETER PARKER (A.K.A. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN) ACCIDENTALLY BONDED WITH AN ALIEN BEING CALLED A SYMBIOTE. WHEN PETER REALIZED THE COSTUME WAS ACTUALLY AN AGGRESSIVE LIVING ORGANISM, HE REJECTED IT. BUT DURING THEIR TIME TOGETHER, THE SYMBIOTE HAD ACCESS TO SPIDER-MAN'S GENETIC CODE AND NOW GRANTS WHOMEVER IT BONDS WITH SKILLS SIMILAR TO HIS: WALL-CRAWLING, THE POWER TO GENERATE BIOORGANIC WEBBING AND UNIQUE ABILITIES TO SHAPE-SHIFT AND BECOME INVISIBLE, TURNING THEM INTO...

# VENOM



## POISON-X CONCLUSION

AFTER CYCLOPS' FATHER--THE INTERSTELLAR ADVENTURER CORSAIR--AND HIS CREW WERE KIDNAPPED BY A GANG OF SYMBIOTE-SUITED MERCENARIES LED BY KILLER THRILL, THE X-MEN ABDUCTED VENOM TO HELP SAVE HIM.

VENOM AND THE X-MEN CONFRONTED THE ARMS DEALER HAZE MANCER, WHO HAD SOLD THE SYMBIOTES TO THRILL'S GANG. IN THE ENSUING STRUGGLE, THE X-MEN WERE BONDED TO KLYNTAR OF THEIR OWN AND DEFEATED THE SYMBIOTE SLAVER!

USING MANCER'S SYMBIOTE TRACER TECH, THE X-MEN LOCATED THE STARJAMMERS AND LAUNCHED AN ALL-OUT ASSAULT ON KILLER THRILL AND HER GANG.

MEANWHILE, AN OLD THREAT, ONE WITH A DANGEROUS INTEREST IN THE KLYNTAR, HAS RETURNED. THE POISONS HAVE INVADED THE UNIVERSE...AND JEAN GREY AND KILLER THRILL WERE THEIR FIRST VICTIMS!

*NOTE: THE EVENTS IN THIS ISSUE TAKE PLACE AFTER X-MEN BLUE #22. IF YOU HAVEN'T READ IT, PROCEED AT YOUR OWN RISK.*

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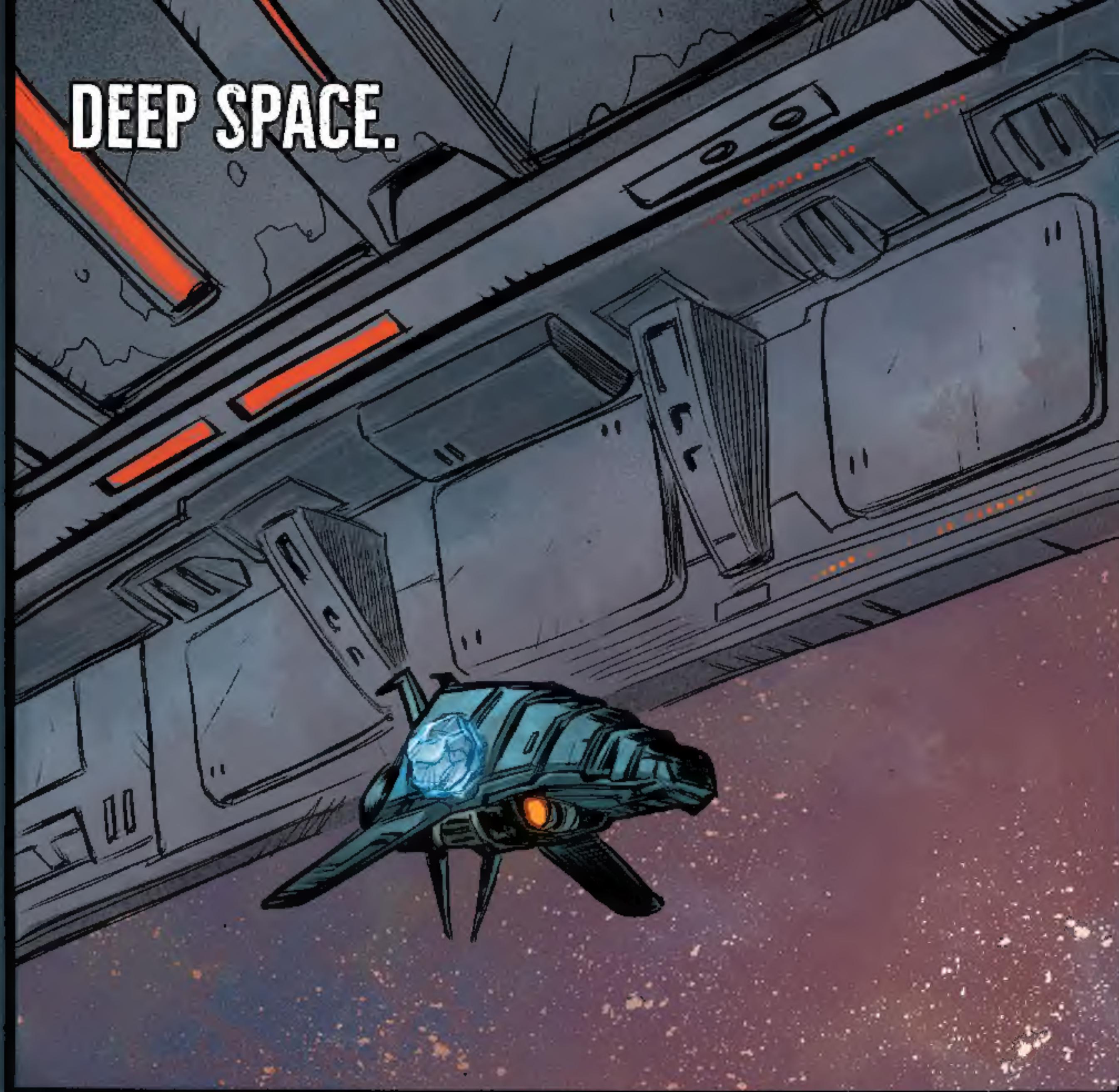
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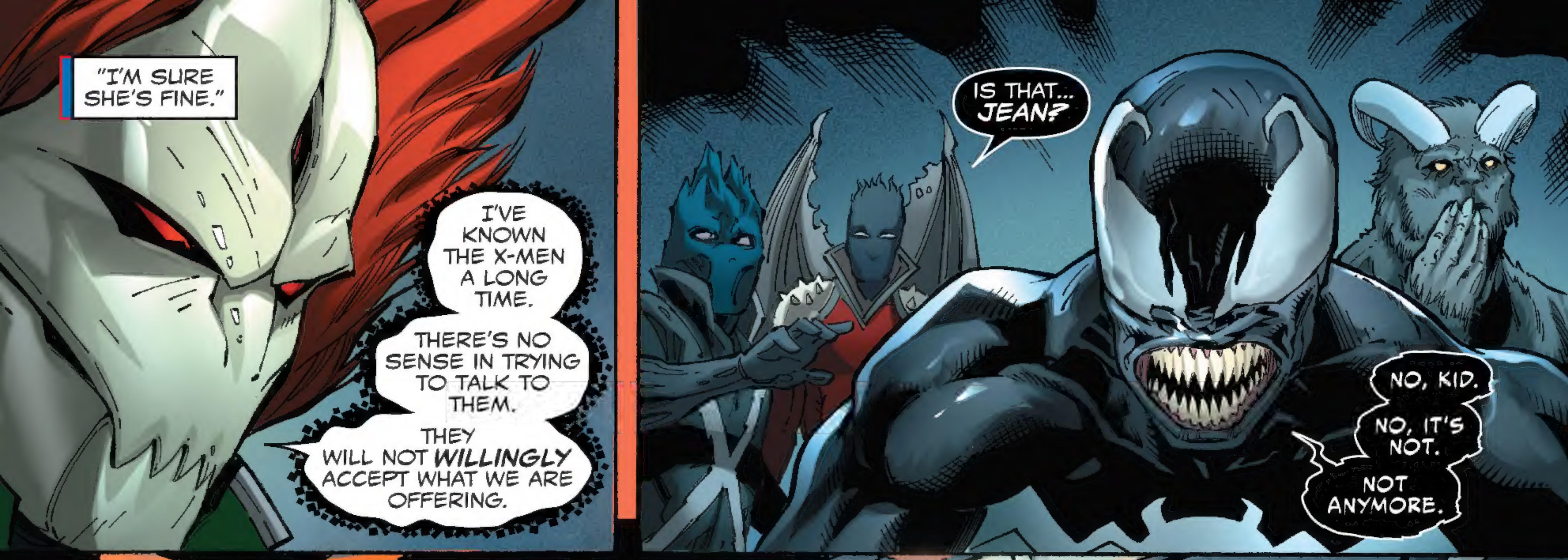
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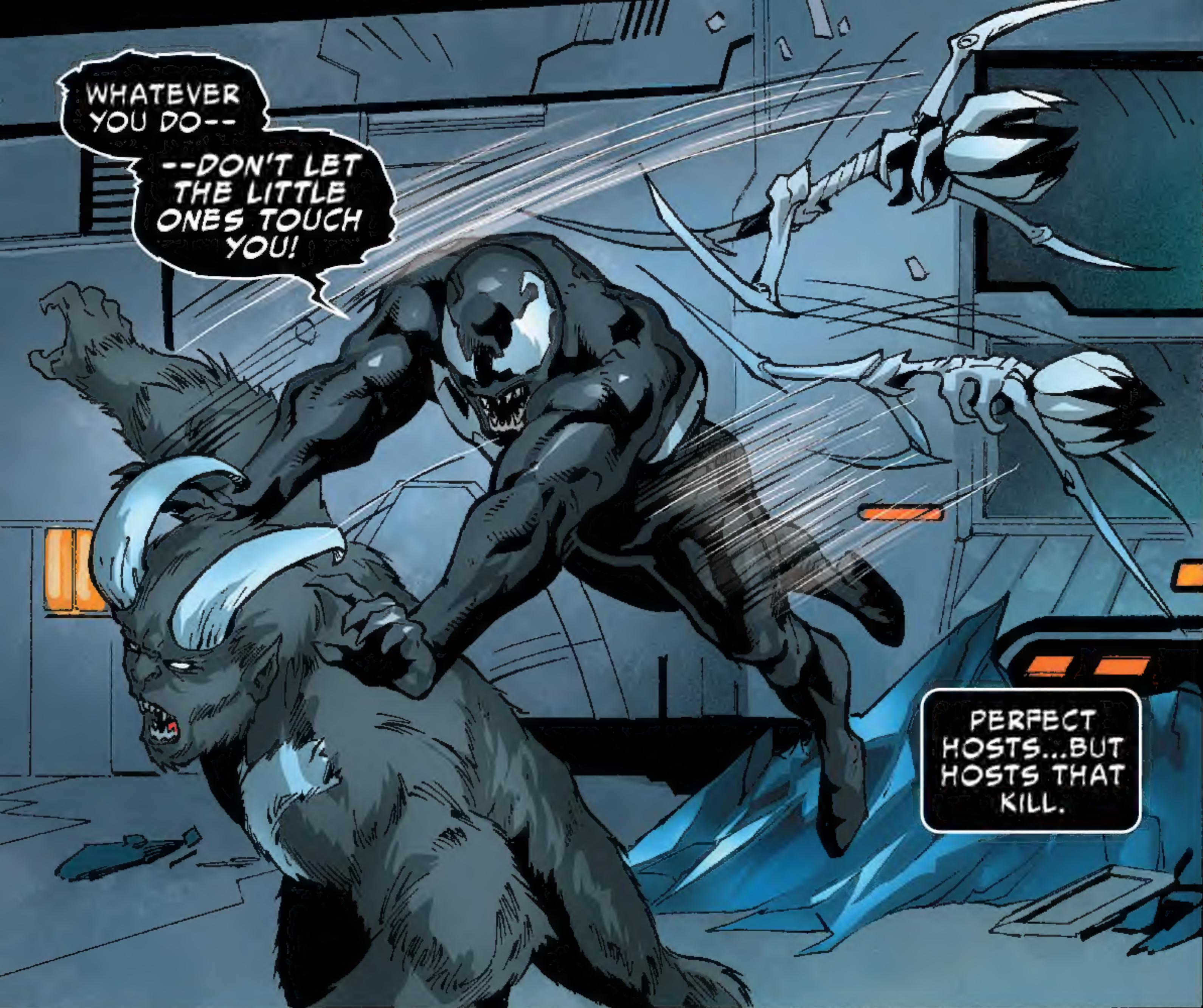
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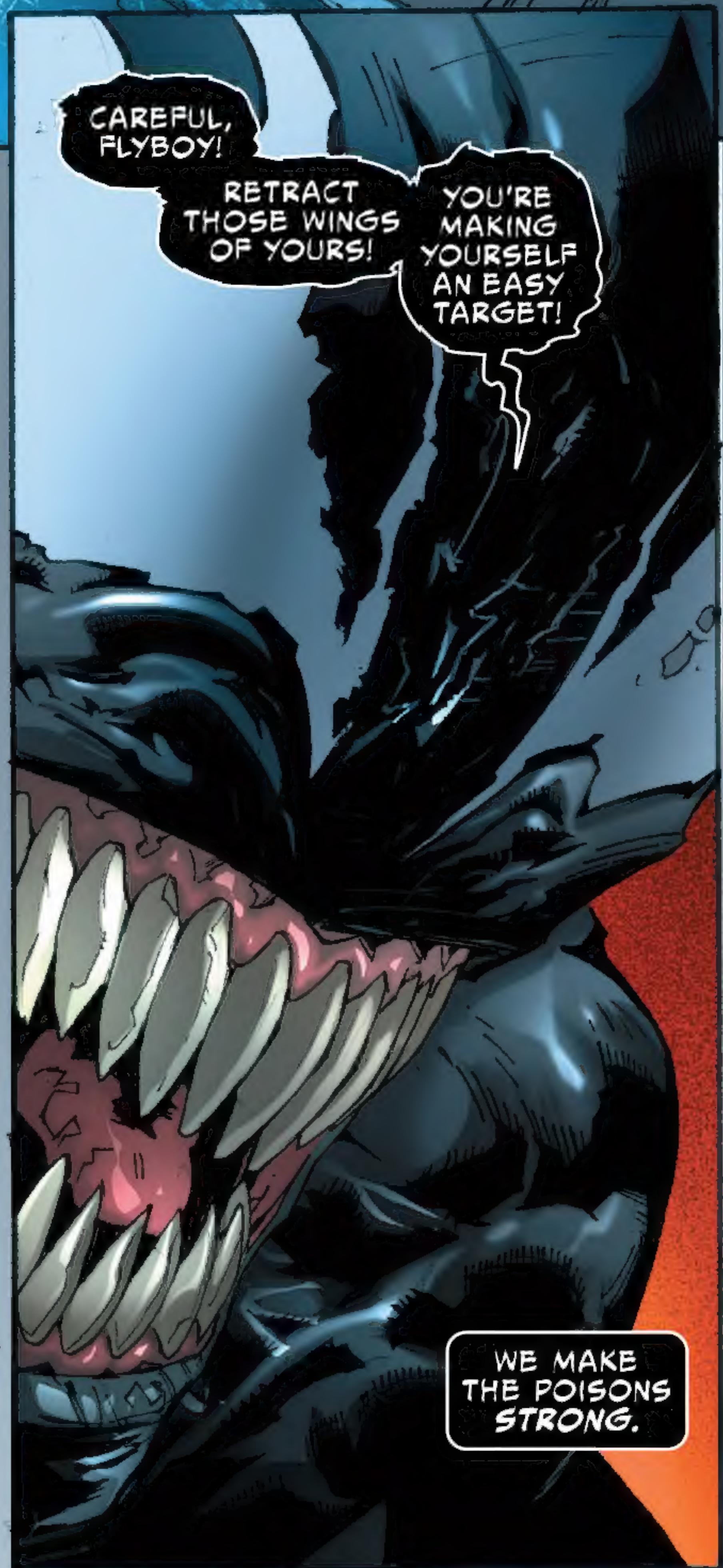
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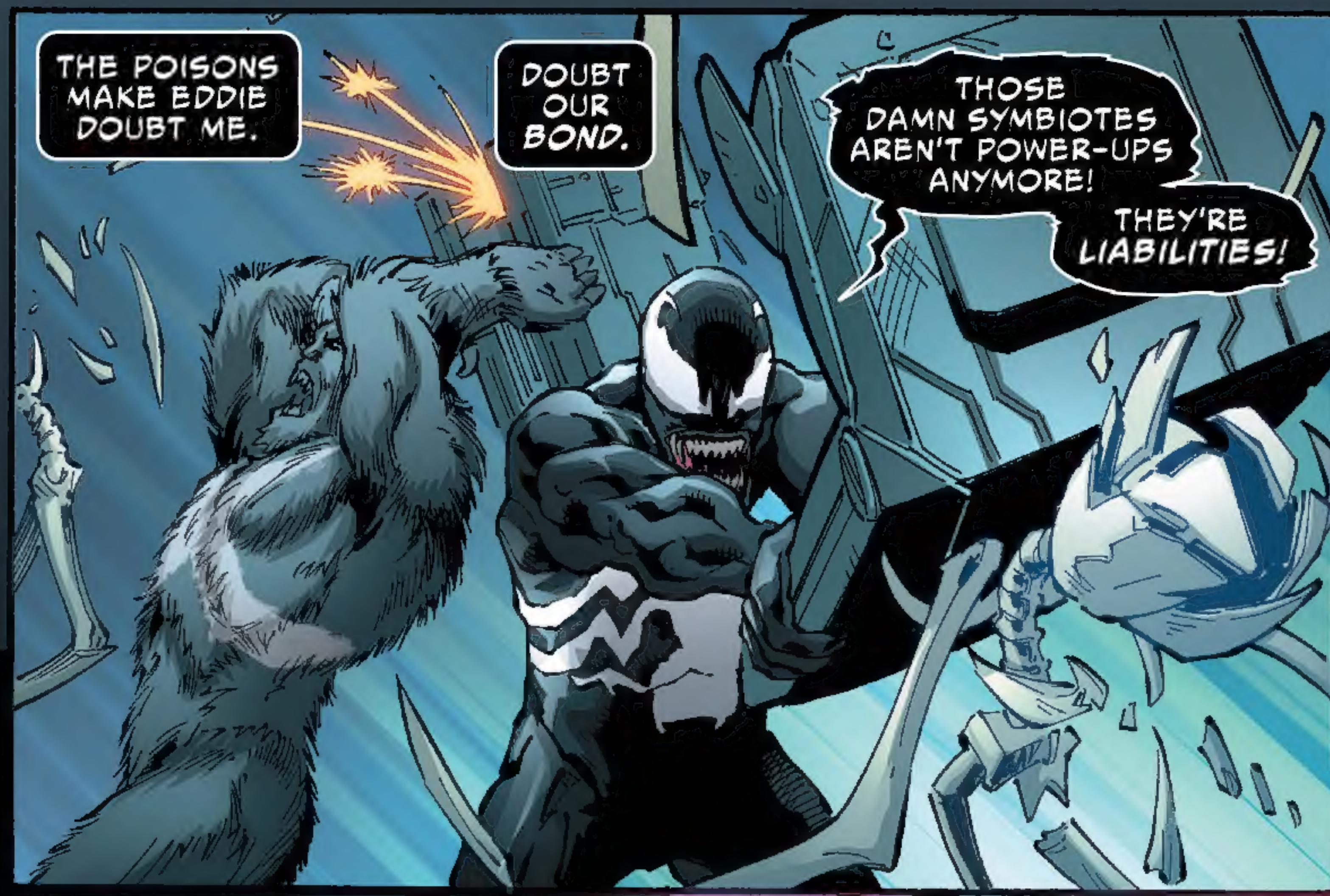
DEEP SPACE.

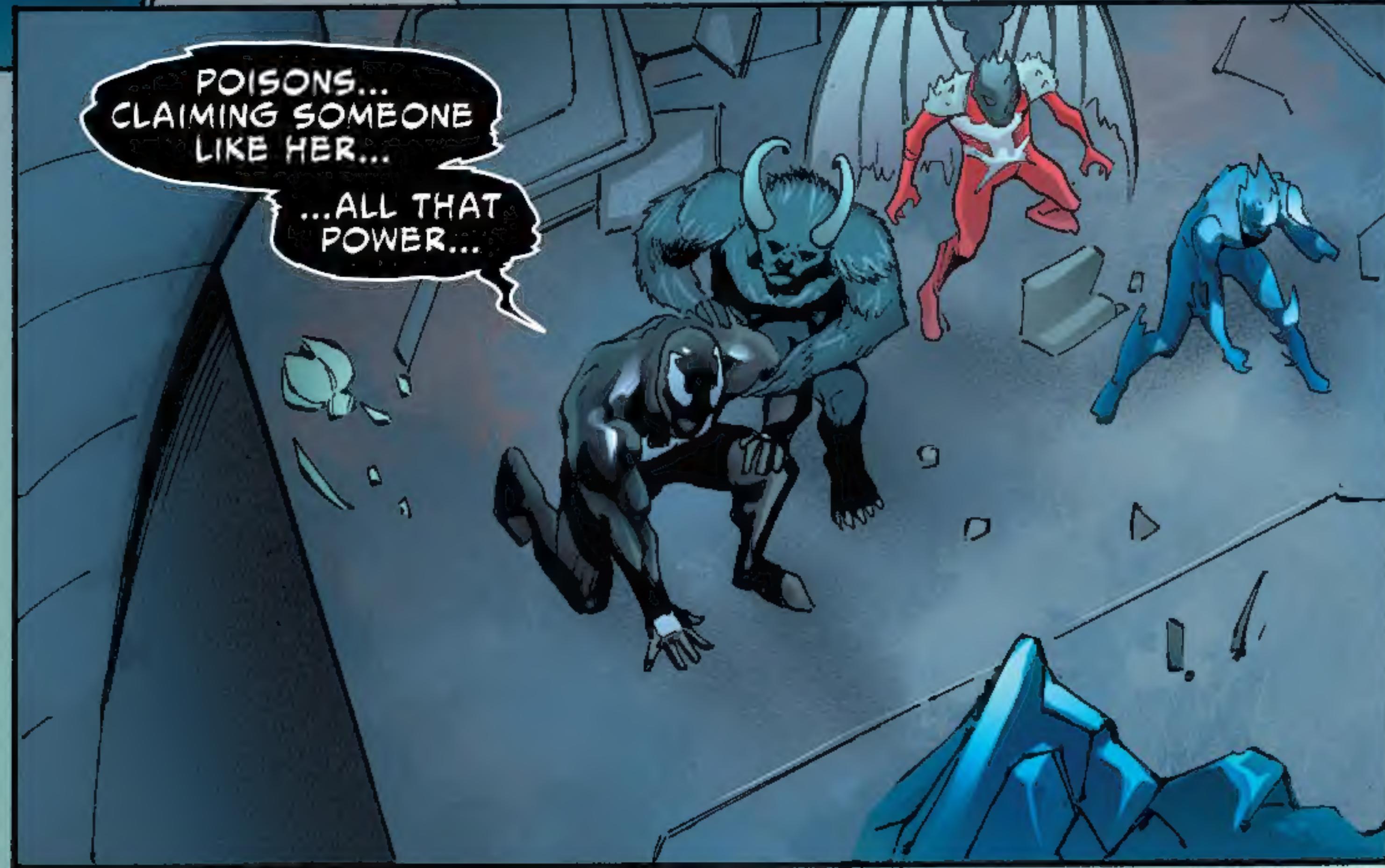


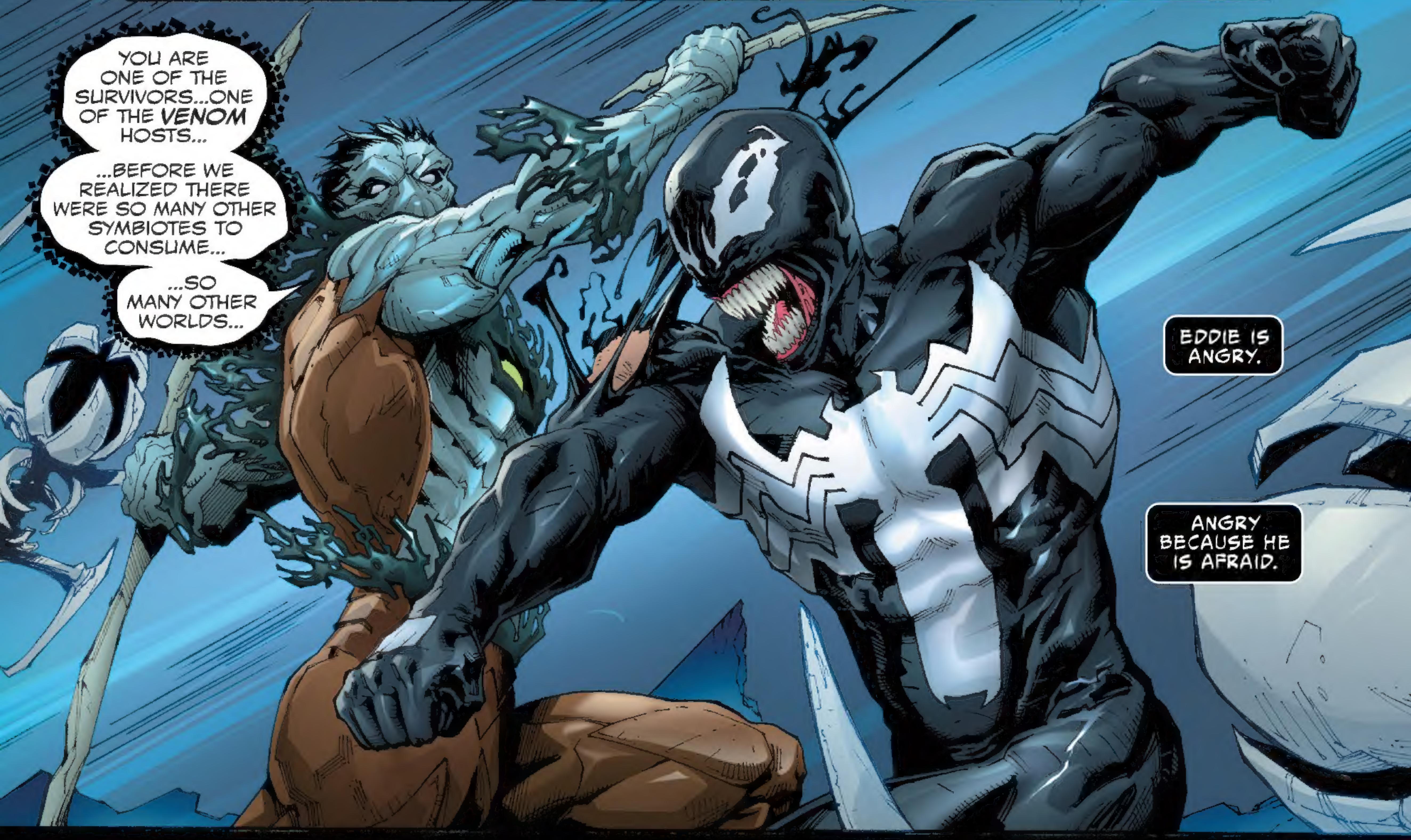












YOU...  
YOU ARE  
USELESS TO  
US NOW!

THE HIVE  
HAS NO NEED FOR  
BOUNTIES. NO PRICE  
UPON YOUR  
HEADS!

ABANDON  
THIS FIGHT  
AND YOU MIGHT  
LIVE A WHILE  
LONGER!

SORRY,  
FRIEND.

THE  
STARJAMMERS  
DON'T TURN THEIR  
BACKS ON FRIENDS...  
OR ENEMIES.

THEY'RE ONLY  
INTERESTED IN THE  
KLYNTAR!

X-MEN--  
HIT THE  
BRICKS!

WE'LL  
HOLD THEM  
BACK IF WE  
CAN!

VRAK VRAAK  
VRAK

COME  
ON, KID!

WAIT!

WE CAN'T  
JUST LEAVE  
JEAN!

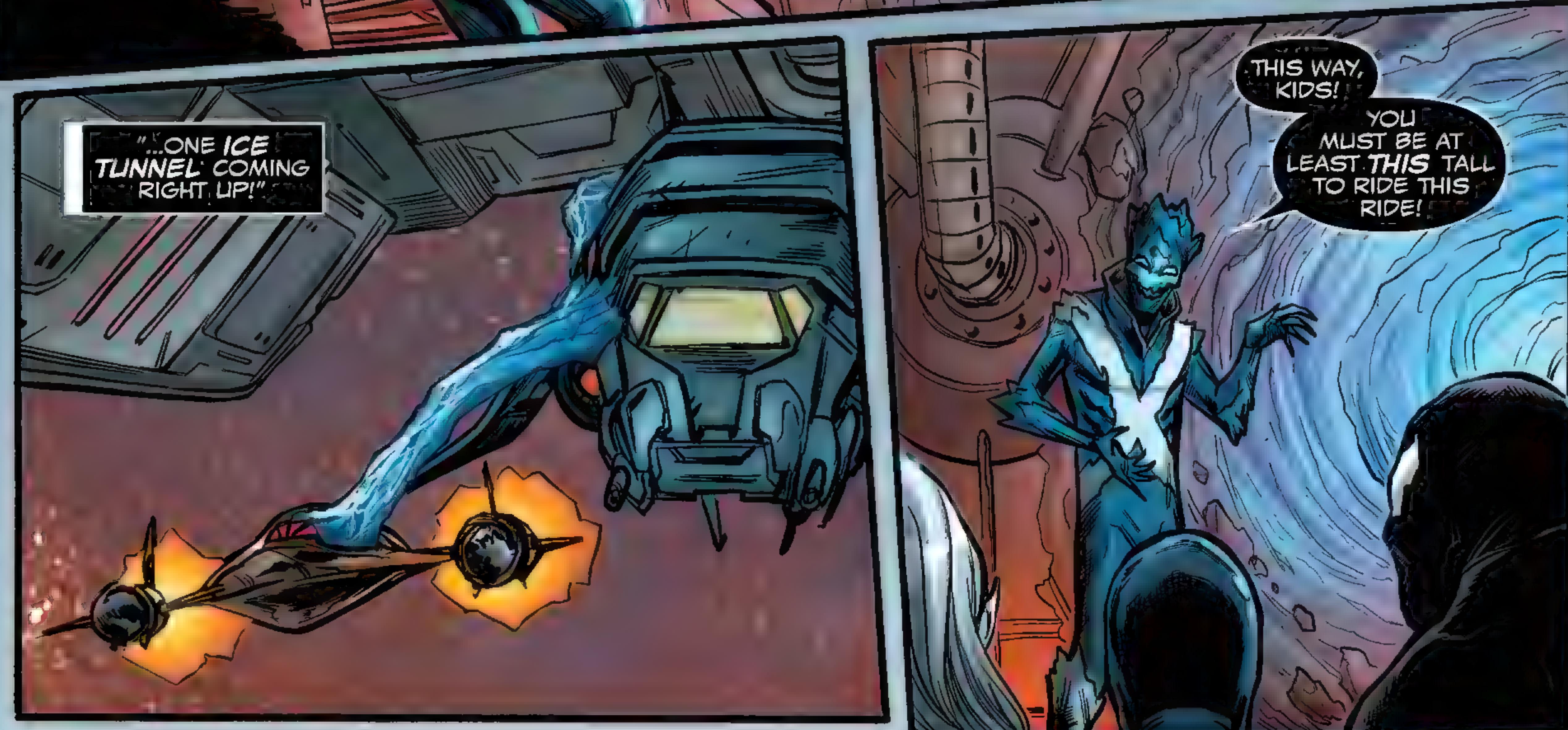
SHE  
NEEDS  
US!

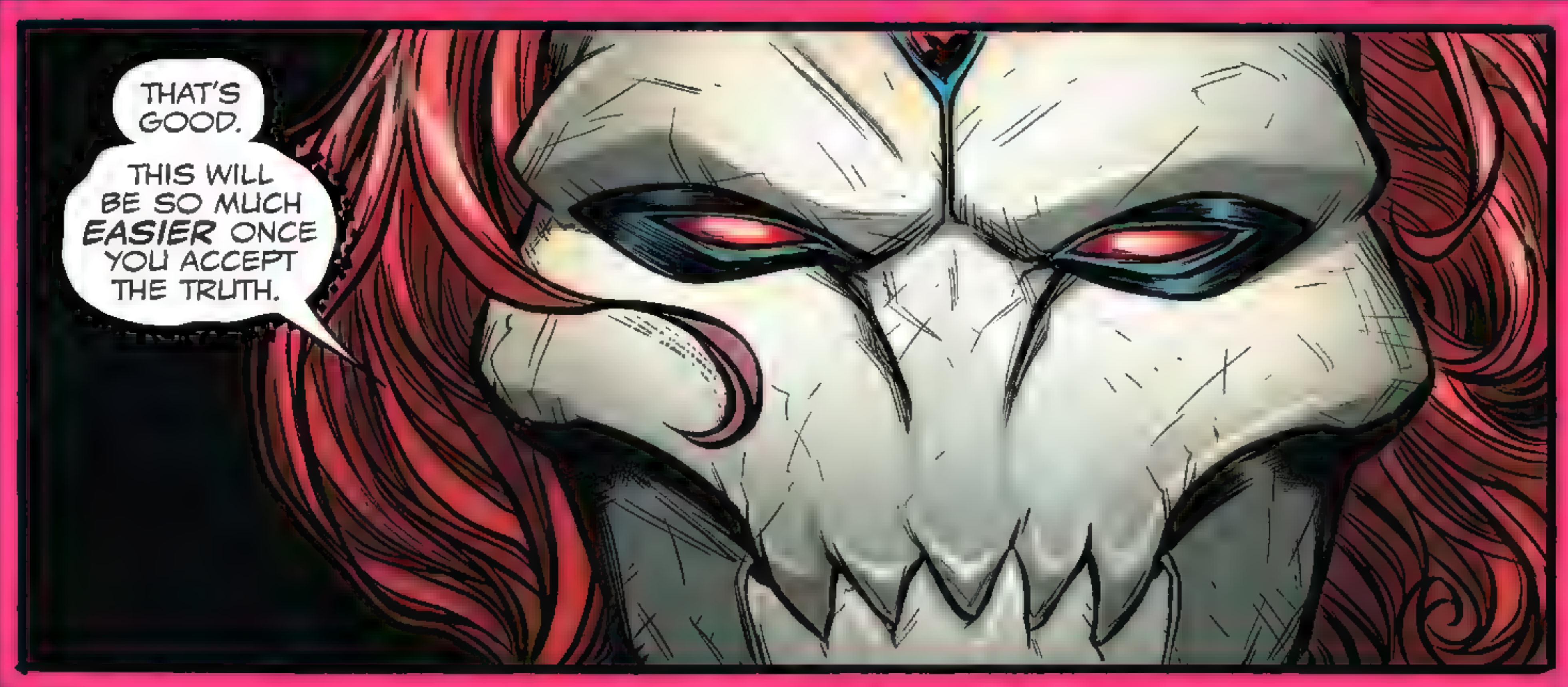
GO!  
I'M  
RIGHT BEHIND  
YOU!

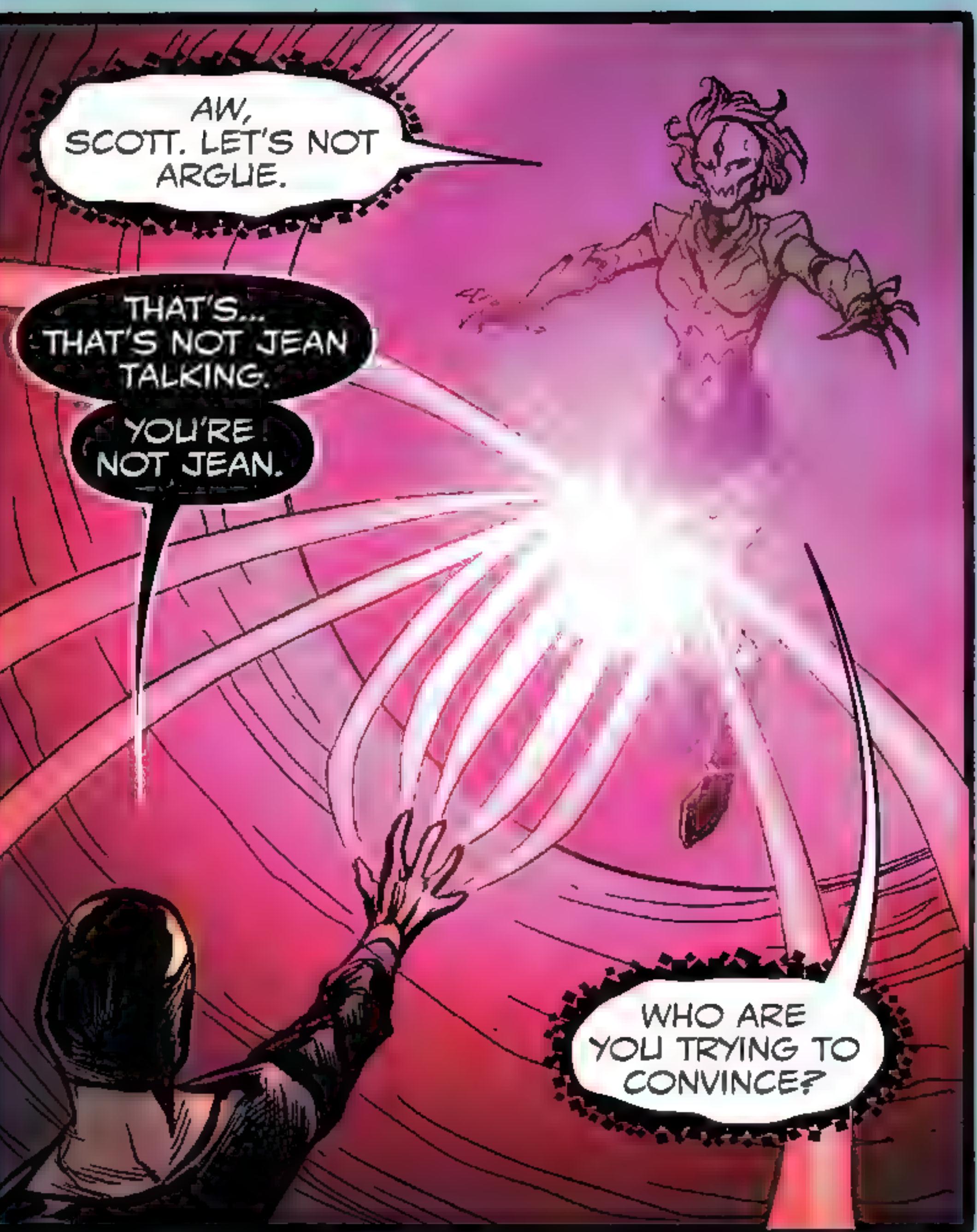
I'LL  
GET THE  
DOOR.

**FRAGILE**

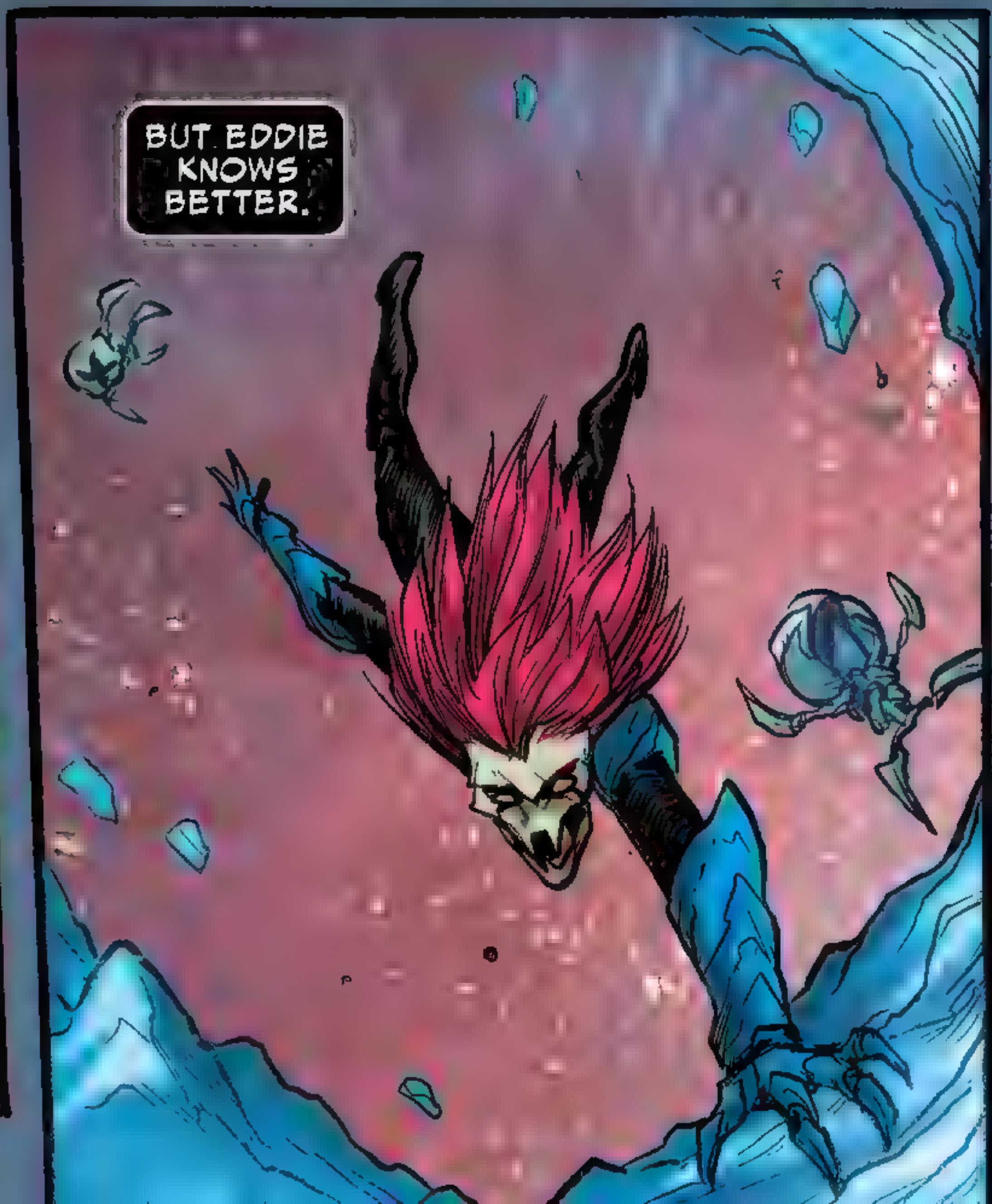
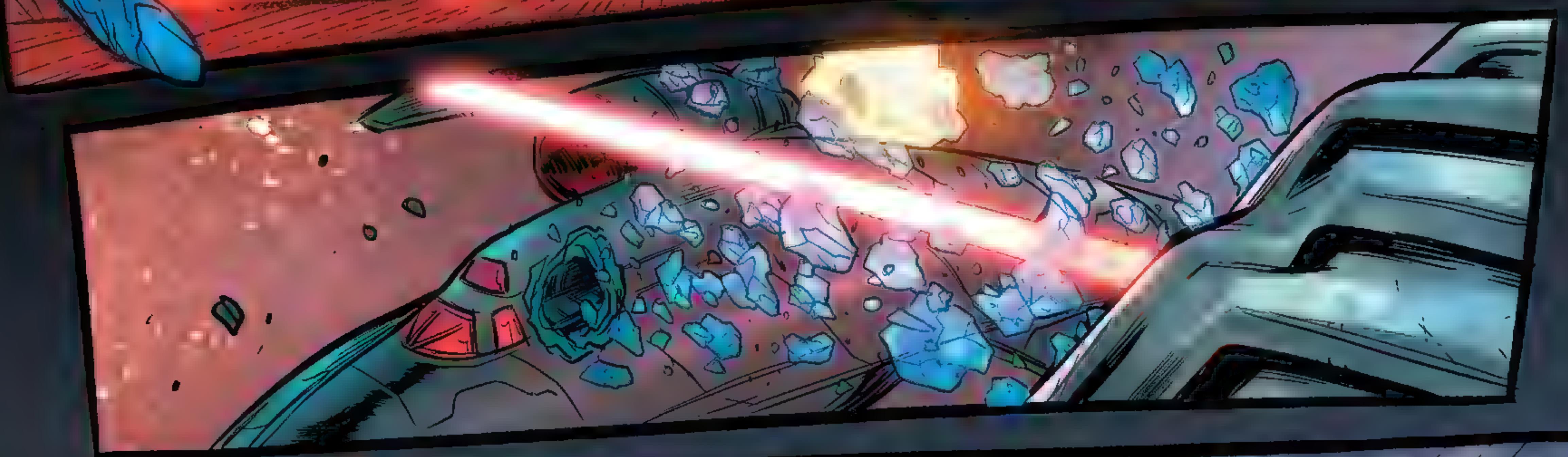


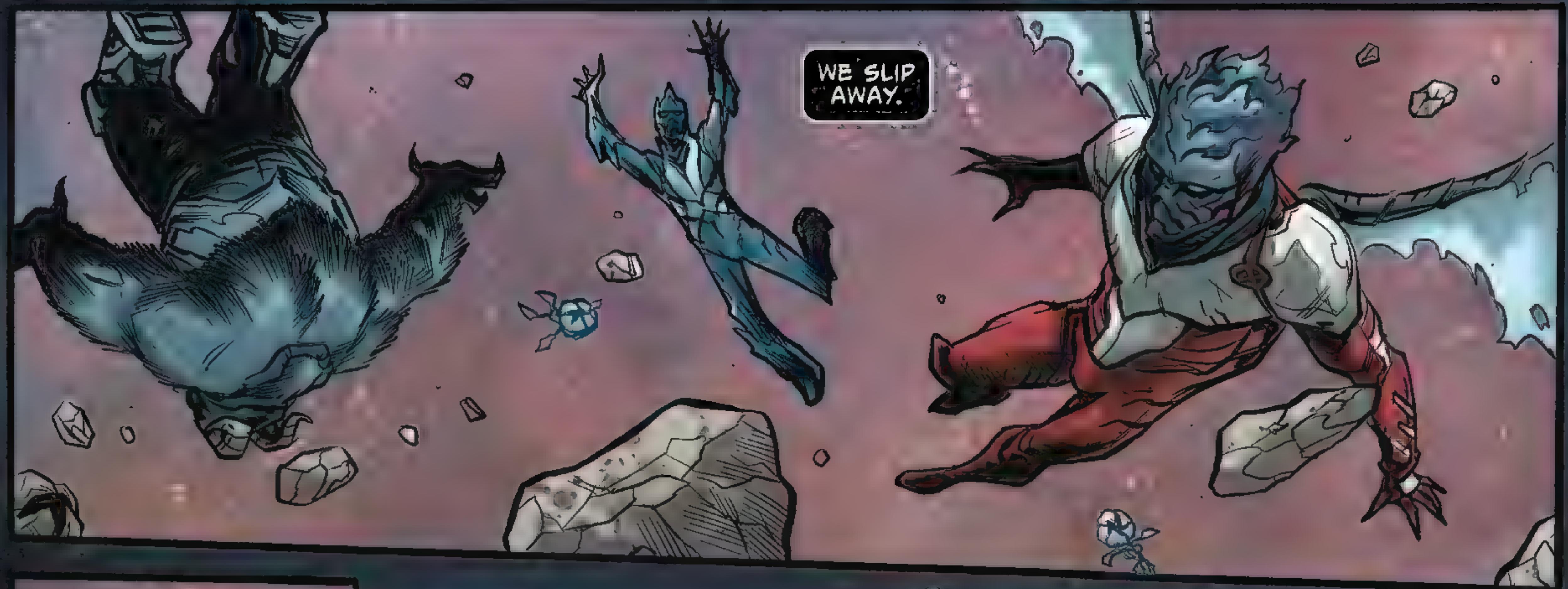






**SHRA-ZRAKOW**





SOMETIMES...

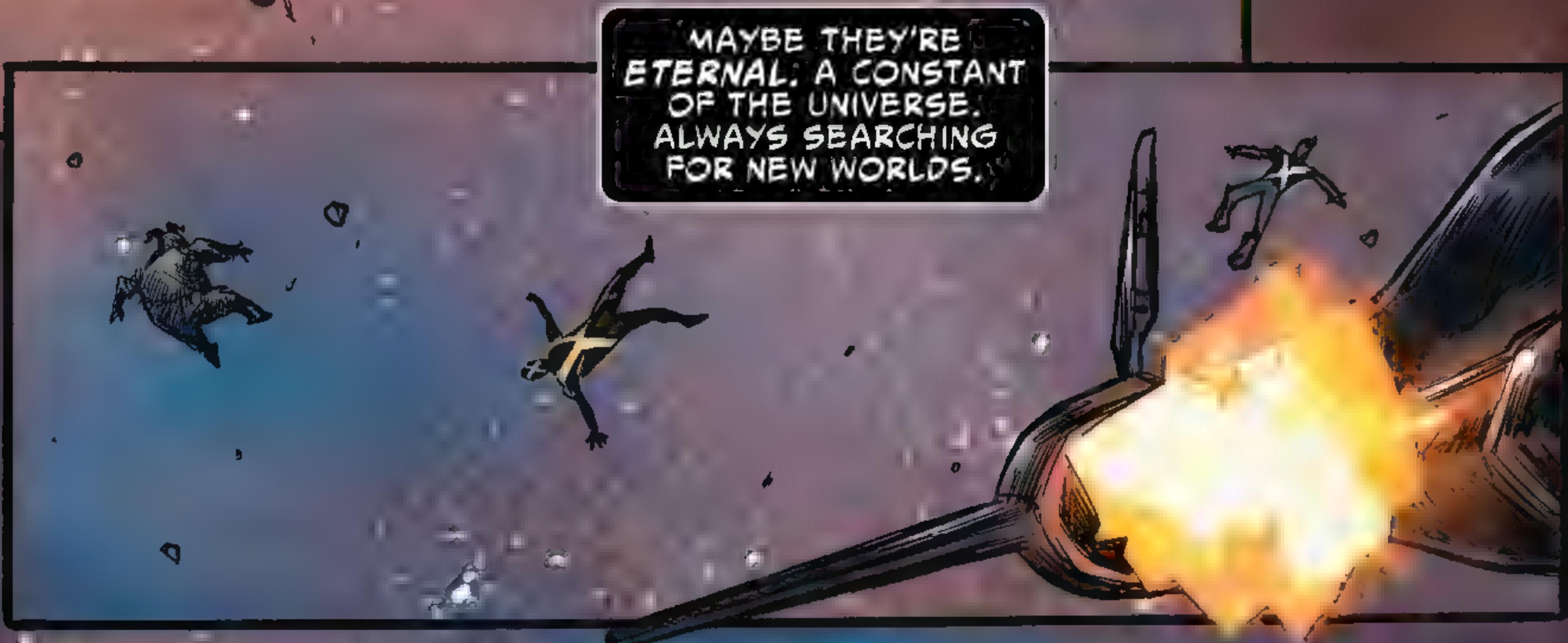
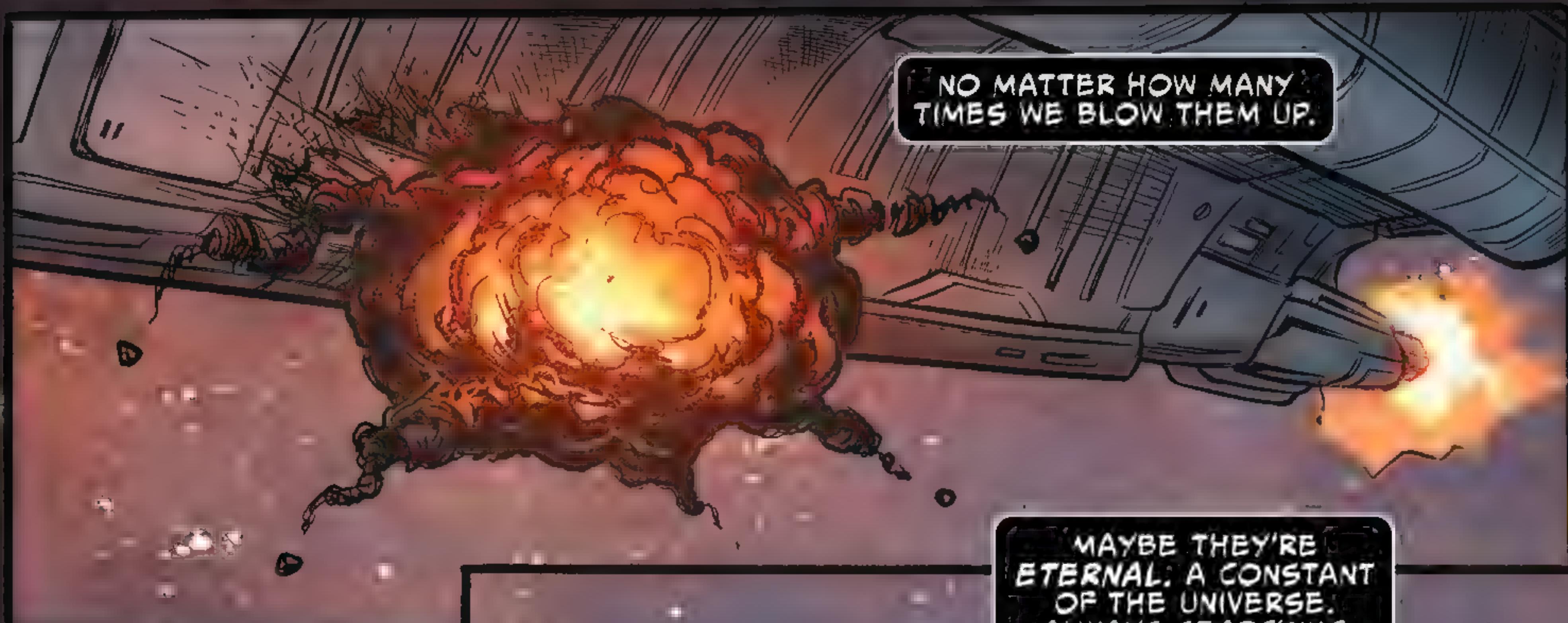
...THAT  
MEANS  
SACRIFICING  
THE ONES  
YOU LOVE.

THOUGHT  
WE COULD  
BEAT THEM.

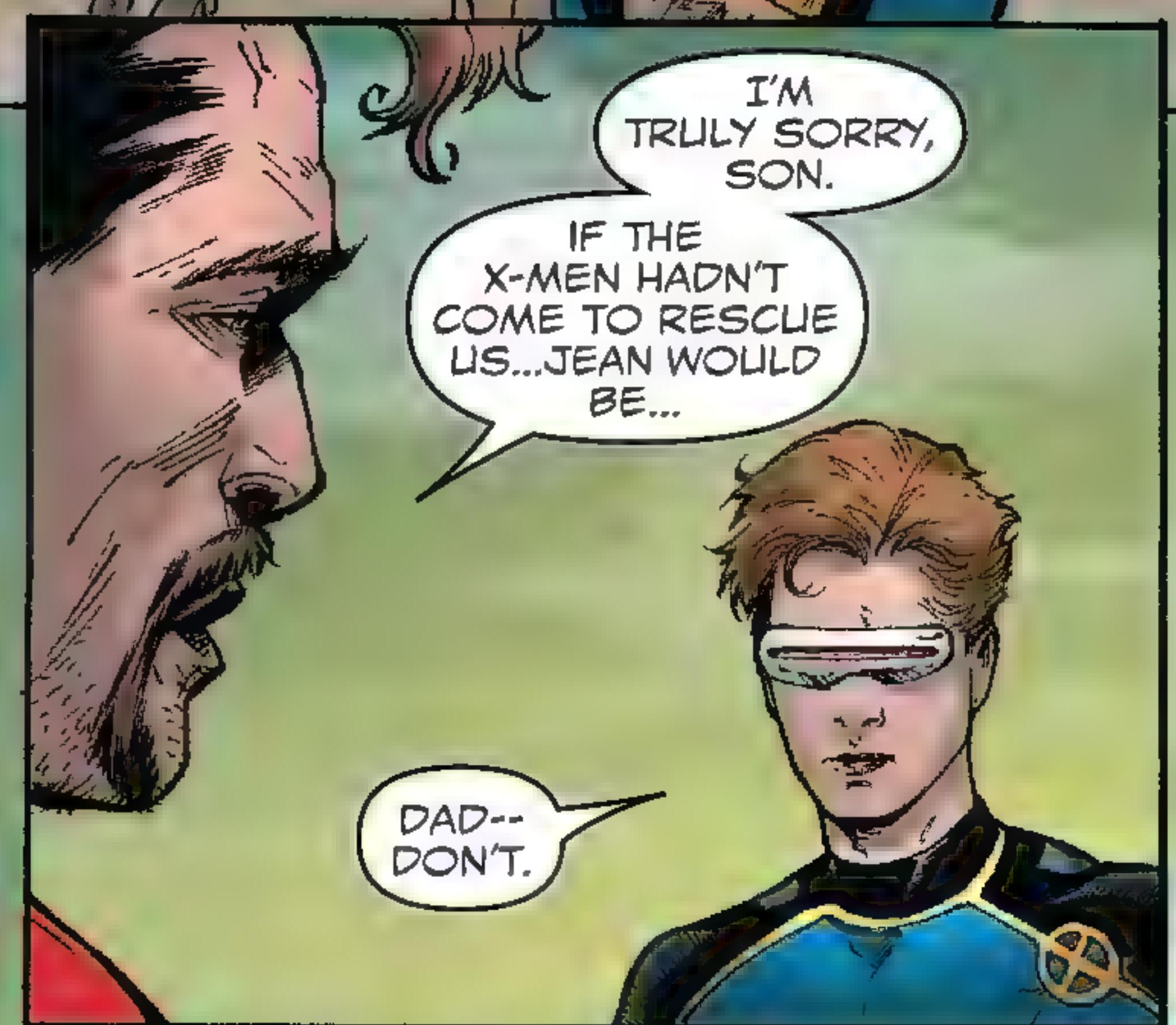
THOUGHT WE  
DESTROYED ALL OF  
THEM ON A  
POISONED EARTH.

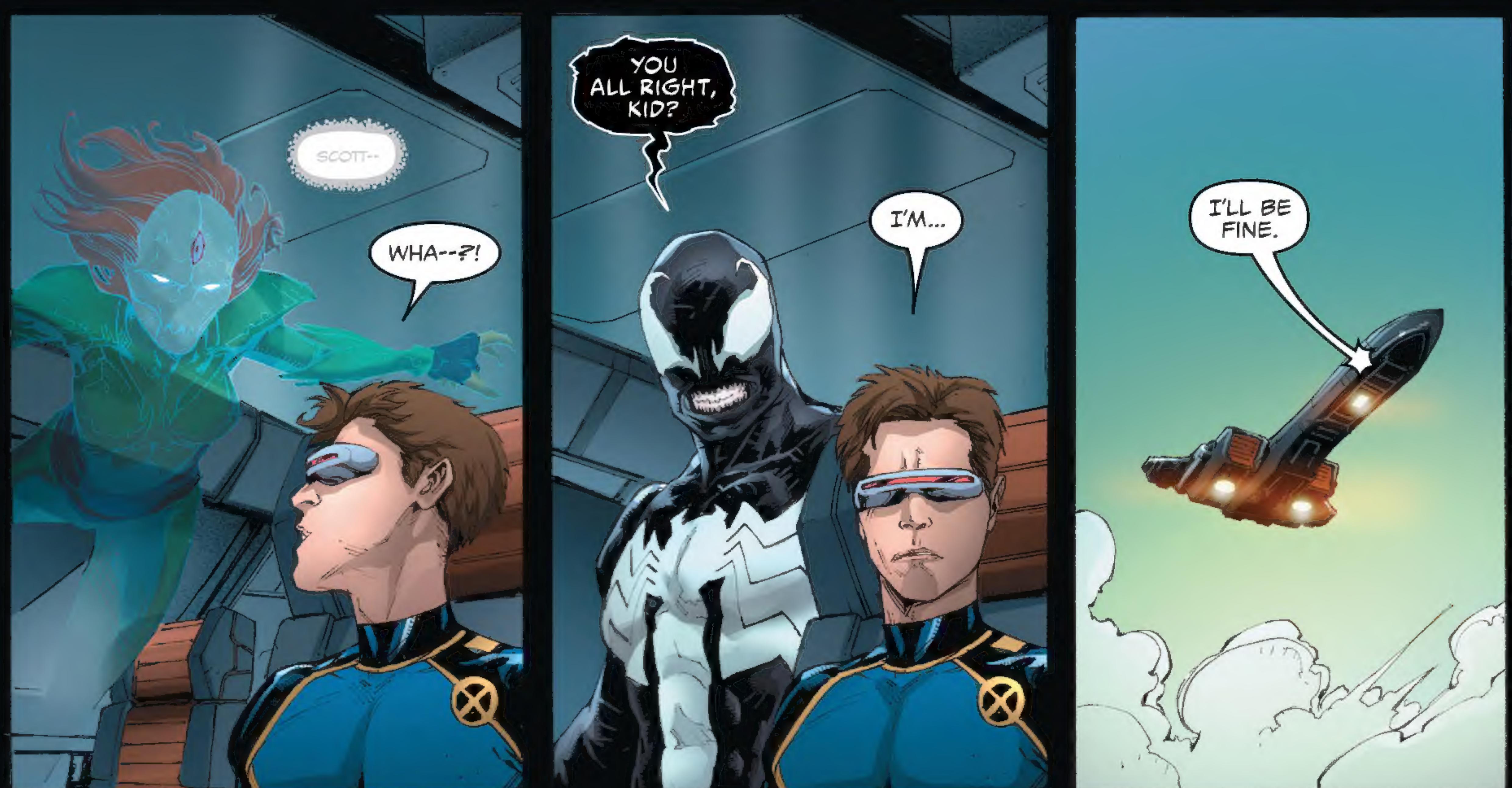
BUT SOMEHOW  
THEY FOLLOWED  
US HOME.

THEY'LL  
NEVER STOP  
HUNTING US.



KARITETH SPACEPORT.  
ULGRIATH.





# THE PLANET KLYNTAR

LAST  
STOP FOR OUR  
SYMBIOTIC  
GUESTS.  
WELCOME--

--HOME?  
UH...ISN'T THIS PLACE  
SUPPOSED TO BE HEAVILY  
POPULATED?

WHERE IS  
EVERYONE?

A GHOST  
TOWN, THIS  
PLACE IS.

YOU MAY  
BE MORE RIGHT  
THAN YOU KNOW,  
HEPZIBAH.  
I'M NOT  
DETECTING ANY  
LIFE-FORMS.

WE NEED  
TO CONTACT THE  
X-MEN.

WE NEED  
TO WARN THEM...TO  
WARN EARTH.

IT LOOKS  
LIKE THE POISONS  
HAVE ALREADY BEEN  
HERE...

...AND  
THEY'VE TAKEN ALL  
THE KLYNTAR!

TO BE CONTINUED IN  
VENOMIZED #1!



# Eddie's Clubhouse

SEND E-MAILS TO [SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM](mailto:SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM) (PLEASE MARK "OKAY TO PRINT")

The symbiotes have been KIDNAPPED?! But who or what could possibly be able to forcibly remove thousands of symbiotes from their home planet... and why?!

There's only one way to find out... **KEEP READING VENOM!**

Hello, Venomaniacs! Editor Devin Lewis reporting to you live and in print from Marvel HQ in the heart of New York, where it is WAY too cold. Today marks the 47th year of this endless winter, but as frigid as it's been outside, it's been RED-HOT on the shelves of your local comic shop if you're a VENOM fan.

First, your pals at the House of Ideas delivered VENOM INC., the first-ever official crossover between THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and VENOM! Featuring the return of Flash Thompson, Andi Benton and Lee Price, VENOM INC. ushered in a new era for Spider-Man, Venom and their supporting casts.

Then came POISON-X, the final issue of which you're holding in your hands RIGHT NOW! Another first-of-its-kind crossover, this time between VENOM and X-MEN! Unless you count "Tooth and Claw" from back in the day, which I DON'T, because Wolverine is not, in fact, a team of X-Men unto himself.

POISON-X also marks the first deliberate incursion of the deadly Poisons into the Marvel Universe--and while we've seen them interact with MU characters before (in both VENOMVERSE and the MONSTERS UNLEASHED epic "Lo, There Came a Poison!"), this comics mag represents the first time they've marched on the MU with an eye for conquest.

That might've been enough for the Distinguished Competition, but not for us, True Believers, because the epic final chapter in the saga that started with VENOMVERSE has just been announced--VENOMIZED! Reuniting your favorites and mine, Cullen Bunn, Iban Coello and Matt Yackey, VENOMIZED is a no-holds-barred slugfest with all of your favorite Marvel heroes getting caught in the fray. It kicks off next month, so don't miss it!



As eagle-eyed readers know, this year marks the 30th anniversary of Venom's first appearance, and we're hard at work on even more as-yet-unannounced stories that celebrate everything we all love about the Lethal Protector. Watch this space for more info!

But enough plugging! Let's get to your letters!

Dear Team VENOM,

I have to say how awesome it is to be emailing you guys! It's been a blast reading "Venom Inc."

When I first heard about the crossover I immediately went to my local comic shop to add it to my pull list. It's been great to read about my favorite Marvel characters in one comic. I never knew the symbiote was able to spread and control other people.

It's funny to see Venom playing nice with Spidey and the good guys.

Keep up the good work and can't wait to read Part 6 next week!!!

Justin

Thanks for reading, Justin, and for the kind words! We're thrilled you've been enjoying "Venom Inc." and hope the finale lives up to your expectations! Be sure to let us know what you think of that one with another letter!

I squealed when I saw in *Comic Shop News* that the first-ever THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and VENOM crossover was about to happen. I took a picture of the ALPHA cover and sent it to my fiancé. I just couldn't hide my excitement! Who are my top two all-time favorite comic characters, you ask? It's probably obvious!

"Venom Inc." is so good! I even managed to get one of the crazy-sweet Dell'Otto variant covers for the ALPHA and you can bet I'm getting the OMEGA cover, too! This crossover series is amazing to say the least! And you brought back Flash as Anti-Venom?!

Between the conclusion of "Venom Inc." and "Poison-X" around the corner, I'm a happy Dave! You guys certainly know how to Venomize the Marvel Universe! Venomize the world! Venom for life! My life was changed forever in the pages of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #300 when Eddie Brock obtained the symbiote and I've been on one heck of a journey ever since. Keep up the great work, guys!

Thank you for changing my life!

David C.

These kinds of letters really make our days here at the House of Ideas. I've said it before and I'll say it again, nothing makes us happier than knowing that you readers are enjoying the stories and series we publish! Thanks for reading, David, and for being a lifelong Venom fan! We hope you like what we've got in store for the sinister symbiote's birthday!

Hey VENOM team,

I just wanted to let you guys know that your work with Eddie and his "Other" has been exemplary! What with all the controversy that's been going on in the comics world these days it's good to see a book that cares about plot, character, good art and action! Seeing Mark Bagley doing Venom's slobbery jaws again is just icing on the cake! Thanks again for all the hard work!

Spencer

Thanks for reading, Spencer! And, if you liked "Marvelous" Mark Bagley's return to the pages of VENOM, be sure to check out VENOM #164 and #165--both on sale next month, with some of the coolest and craziest Mark Bagley Venom action I've ever seen! Be sure to check 'em out and let us know what you think!

Dear "Venom Inc." creative team,

Thank you so much for this crossover event. It's honestly one of the best stories I've read in a few years. Not only are you guys treating Eddie Brock right, but you're treating my favorite Venom, Flash Thompson, right as well! You guys rock for bringing both of them back into the spotlight! Also, I have a quick question that we are all dying to have answered:

Will Flash Thompson be getting a new solo series?

Again, thanks so much for everything you guys do!

Michael L.

Hi, Michael! Boy, you're not wrong, we do get that question about Flash quite often! We here at Spidey-Central are big fans of Flash's, too, so trust me when I say we've got big plans for him. Beyond

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that, I can't say much, but, if Flash is a character who means a lot to you, so will the stories we have coming up from the Spider-Office this spring! **KEEP READING!**

Dear Eddie's Clubhouse,

I jumped back on board with #155, not having picked up a VENOM title in years. You see, I love the character, but one cannot afford every title that Marvel publishes (roll on, lottery win). I'm pleased I grabbed #155.

I have craved a Venom/Kraven encounter for decades. I know there have been prior encounters, but nothing quite like what we've seen in recent issues. However, thank you for giving the Venom/Kraven encounter a lot of depth. It'd be tempting, I'm sure, to have two characters duking it out nonstop. But even the greatest battles need to be enhanced with multi-dimensional characters, great dialogue and depth. I am glad to say that you have not disappointed me. Any chance of some romance for Eddie Brock? Lots of love to the team. Make Mine Marvel!

Stephen P.  
Birmingham  
United Kingdom

Well, you know what they say, Stephen--better late than never! Myself, I'm just glad you jumped back aboard the VENOM train with issue #155! Mike, Mark, Dono and Clayton certainly did terrific work on that LEGACY arc! Be sure to check your shop's longboxes, too, for the earlier issues of Mike's run, featuring some incredible work from artists Gerardo Sandoval, Tradd Moore and Paulo Siqueira. Not only does the first arc of the series set the stage for "Venom Inc." (which we hope you check out!)--but there are a couple of terrific standalone issues in the mix, as well as the arc that introduces the subterranean dinosaur community and sets the stage for Kraven's hunt in "Blood in the Water"!

We've teased the possibility of romance for Eddie, but he's never actually asked anybody out just yet. Maybe he's shy, or maybe there's a presence in his life that makes him less lonely already. Whatever the case may be, Eddie's love life (or lack thereof) is something we'll definitely be exploring in the coming months.

All right, readers! That's all the space we've got for this one! Be here in ONE MONTH, when both VENOM #164 and VENOMIZED #1 will be on sale!

Stay sharp!  
Devin  
[@edevinlewis](mailto:@edevinlewis)



